

EDUCATION

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) provides education for adjudicated juveniles in secure care facilities. The Education Department encourage juveniles to learn practical skills and promotes educational values. Staff provide educational opportunities for all juveniles to acquire academic and career technical skills as a pathway to responsible citizenship.

Monday through Friday, juveniles receive 20 hours of weekly classroom education. This instruction is based on an individualized plan of study which may consist of one or a combination of the following: core academics, GED preparation, community college online courses, work readiness and vocational skills programming.

REINTEGRATION & MENTORING PROGRAM (RAMP)

Day and Evening Support Center (DESC) is utilized by RAMP juveniles exiting Adobe Mountain School. They will find educational, pre-vocational, counseling and other support at the center. RAMP juveniles will be identified in the Reception, Assessment and Classification (RAC) process and will receive targeted educational, behavioral health and pre-vocational programming.

Parents are encouraged to attend parent education programming offered evenings at the North West Parole site in conjunction with the Maricopa County Public Health Department.

Furloughs to DESC are incorporated into the RAMP program at Adobe Mountain School to better acclimate exiting students to the centers' potential to aid them in their reintegration to the community.

EDUCATION & CAREER ACTION PLAN (ECAP)

ECAP, mandated for all students with a 2013 cohort, will be utilized to match students with mentors and serve as a roadmap for the youth as he/she pursues educational and/or career goals.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Community Corrections is responsible for establishing and operating a system of community based programs to supervise and rehabilitate juveniles in the least restrictive environment, consistent with public safety and needs of the juvenile.

Planning for transition from a Safe School to the community begins at the time the treatment plan is first developed. The plan is continually updated (every 90 days) until the juvenile is ready for release. When placed on conditional liberty (parole), the juvenile's treatment is extended into the community. Parole status consists of community supervision and community services.

A juvenile spends an average of 3.9 months on parole. ADJC spends approximately \$1.5 million annually to provide community based services to juveniles. These services may include substance abuse, mental health, family counseling and a variety of other services to meet individual and family treatment needs.

PAROLE VIOLATIONS

If a juvenile returns to ADJC for violating their terms of conditional liberty they are placed on "pending suspension/revocation" status until a hearing is completed. Two outcomes can occur at the hearing; parole reinstatement or parole revocation. Parole revocation results in a juvenile returning to a Safe School. Parole reinstatement results in the juvenile being returned to the community.

DISCHARGE

A juvenile may be discharged from parole supervision and released from ADJC jurisdiction. This may occur for different reasons: a juvenile becomes an adult at age 18 and "ages out" or is transferred to adult court jurisdiction or may have earned an absolute discharge, meaning all terms of parole were completed satisfactorily.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE CORRECTIONS
SAFER COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUCCESSFUL YOUTH

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

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AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) is responsible for juveniles adjudicated delinquent and committed to its jurisdiction by the county juvenile courts. ADJC is accountable to the citizens of Arizona for the promotion of public safety through the management of the state's secure juvenile facilities and the development and provision of a continuum of services to juvenile offenders, including rehabilitation, treatment and education.

ADJC operates and maintains two secure care facilities for the custody, treatment and education of committed juveniles. Each juvenile placed in a secure care facility receives rehabilitative services appropriate to the juvenile's age, risk, needs, abilities and committing offenses.

WHO IS COMMITTED TO ADJC

In FY 2011, ADJC was responsible for an average daily population of 1,099 juvenile offenders. A total of 559 juveniles were newly committed to ADJC in FY 2011. This represents approximately 1.3% of the juveniles who were referred to juvenile court. The average age at commitment was 16.5 years; 88% were male, 12% were female.

ETHNICITY

African American	16%
Caucasian	29%
Hispanic	46%
Mexican National	3%
Native American	5%
Other	1%

DELINQUENT HISTORY

- ◆ 13 was the average age of the first referral to the juvenile court
- ◆ 82% had 6 or more court referrals
- ◆ 81% had 3 or more adjudications
- ◆ 23% had at least one violent offense adjudication
- ◆ 39% were committed on a property offense

RISK ASSESSMENT

Many of the juveniles committed to ADJC are chronic property offenders and almost all have serious substance abuse problems. While efforts are made to identify and build on their personal strengths, many of them have significant intellectual, educational and emotional deficiencies. ADJC employs a variety of tools to assess criminogenic needs:

DYNAMIC RISK INSTRUMENT (DRI)

ADJC developed DRI to assess a juvenile's risk to re-offend. The DRI is calculated from 18 juvenile characteristics resident within the Criminogenic and Protective Factors Assessment (CAPFA) and offense records. The CAPFA is used for all juveniles committed to the ADJC and consists of 12 domains and over 180 measures. CAPFA scores are updated every 90 days.

JUVENILE SEX OFFENDER ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL II (J-SOAP II)

The J-SOAP II for sex offenders is designed to be used for males in the age range of 12 to 18 who have been adjudicated for sexual offenses, as well as non-adjudicated juveniles with a history of sexually coercive behaviors.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SUBTLE SCREENING INVENTORY (SASSI)

The SASSI is a brief and easily administered psychological screening measure that helps identify individuals who have a high probability of having a substance use disorder e.g., substance abuse or dependence. It is used for juveniles between the ages of 12 and 18.

MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH SCREENING INSTRUMENT (MAYSI 2)

The MAYSI 2 is a brief screening tool designed to assist juvenile justice facilities in identifying juveniles who may have special mental health needs.

ABSCOND RISK INSTRUMENT (ARI)

The ARI is used to assess a juvenile's risk to abscond from Community Supervision. The ARI is calculated from 11 juvenile characteristics resident within the CAPFA and offense records.

SAFE SCHOOLS

ADJC maintains two secure care facilities, also known as Safe Schools. Following their adjudication by the juvenile courts, a juvenile will spend an average of 6.1 months in one of ADJC's Safe Schools. ADJC has the discretion to keep juveniles beyond the minimum court-ordered date, until they have completed their treatment plan.

RECEPTION, ASSESSMENT & CLASSIFICATION (RAC)

Upon commitment to ADJC, all juveniles are assessed through the RAC process. This process will determine their risk to re-offend, treatment needs, medical needs and educational level. The information forms the basis for a juvenile's treatment plan. The process generally lasts 21 days and is conducted at the Black Canyon School for committed males and females. Ultimately, the treatment plan will identify individualized rehabilitative and treatment programming to meet the needs of the juvenile.

SPECIALIZED TREATMENT PROGRAMS

At the conclusion of the RAC process, ADJC may place a juvenile in a housing unit that offers specialized treatment programs. Currently, specialized programs focus on substance dependence, sex offenses and mental health needs. Otherwise, a juvenile is placed in a core housing unit, receiving individualized and group treatment services.

CORE PROGRAMS

New Freedom is an evidence based comprehensive substance abuse and behavioral health program which includes more than one hundred and forty easy-to-use workbooks (Grades 4 - 6 reading level) and related materials which address both educational and therapeutic goals. All work is based on Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT), Motivational Enhancement Therapy (MET), social learning, risk factors management and relapse prevention approaches.